GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1993
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2006
RESEARCH OF TEA
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tea Research Association(TRA) has urged upon the Government to constitute a Rupees hundred crore fund for conducting research on tea;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the amount expended for research on tea during the last three years;

(d) whether the quality of tea produced in the country is falling; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to improve the quality and production of tea?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) : No such proposal has been received by the Government.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) : Details of the expenditure incurred by the Government of India through the Tea Board under the head `Research` during the last 3 years are as under:

Year	Amount spent (Rs. In lakh)
2005-06	698.37
2004-05	588.93
2003-04	732.43

(d) & (e) : No, Sir. A number of developmental schemes are being implemented by the Tea Board during the 10th Five Year Plan for enhancing productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country under which financial and technical assistance is provided for undertaking replantation, rejuvenation, and new planting in non-traditional areas, creation of irrigation facilities, setting up of self-help groups among the small tea growers, etc. For improving the quality of made tea, training is imparted to growers for proper plucking and financial assistance is extended for upgradation of tea factories.